

Federation marks TAFE disability support milestone

June 19, 2018

Federation celebrated 40 years of support services for TAFE students with a disability at a special function on Thursday evening, 7 June, at Federation House. Present and former Teacher Consultants for students with a disability as well as TAFE students celebrated with TAFE management, peak disability organisations and Federation Officers.

Jennifer Parry, a St George TAFE student, proposed a toast to past and present students with a disability. Jennifer has been blind since birth and has completed a number of TAFE courses during her career including Administration skills and project management.

Jennifer worked at Telstra for 22 years in a variety of customer service and project management roles and is now enrolled in Certificate III Business Services to upskill for the next stage in her career.



She will also enrol in Music Performance at Ultimo TAFE in semester 2, 2018, to pursue professional career opportunities in the entertainment industry.

Jennifer spoke of her personal experience of the support that specialist TAFE Teacher Consultants give to ensure students with a disability have access and reasonable adjustment to ensure success in their studies.

Retired TAFE Teacher Consultant Barry Toole toasted all TAFE support staff and acknowledged the world-class disability support services delivered by TAFE. He will also acknowledge the importance of support workers with specialist skills and knowledge to assist each student with their individual needs.

TAFE is undergoing a review of disability services to develop a new model of support services. Federation will continue campaign to ensure that all TAFE students with a disability receive specialist support to assist their studies and gain employment.